

534




THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN[®]

A MARVEL[®] COMICS EVENT

CIVIL WAR[™]

STRACZYNSKI

GARNEY



"YESTERDAY WE TOOK PART IN PROBABLY THE MOST VIOLENT POLICE ACTION IN TWENTY YEARS, INVOLVING THE VARIOUS POWERS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE REGISTRATION ACT."

"IT WAS BLOODY."

"IT WAS PAINFUL."

"IT WAS NECESSARY."

THE WAR AT HOME

PART THREE OF SIX

(c) 2009 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved.

The Amazing Spider-Man (ISSN #0274-5232) No. 534, September, 2009. Published Monthly except semi-monthly in January, March, May, June, August and September by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. © 2009 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. \$2.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) in the direct market and \$2.99 per copy in the U.S. and \$4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the newsstand; Canadian Agreement #40668537. Printed in the USA. Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. \$27.00; Canada \$37.00; Foreign \$39.00. POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO The Amazing Spider-Man, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., P.O. BOX 30520 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84130-0520. TELEPHONE # (800) 217-9158. FAX # (801) 208-0877. subscriptions@marvelsubs.com. ALAN FINE, President & CEO of Marvel Toys and Marvel Publishing, Inc.; DAVID BOGART, VP of Publishing Operations; DAN CARP, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIE, Managing Editor; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Joe Maimone, Advertising Director, at jmainone@marvel.com or 212-576-8534. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.



"I KNOW IT WAS
DIFFICULT FOR
MANY OF YOU.

"MORE SO FOR
SOME OF YOU
THAN OTHERS.

"NONETHELESS, YOU
ALL PERFORMED
ADMIRABLY.

"YOU SHOULD ALL
BE PROUD OF WHAT
YOU ACCOMPLISHED."



BUT OUR TASK ISN'T FINISHED YET. THIS MORNING, THOSE WE APPREHENDED ARE GOING TO BE MOVED ACROSS TOWN FROM THE TEMPORARY HOLDING FACILITY TO SOMETHING A BIT MORE PERMANENT.

WE WOULD BE FOOLS NOT TO EXPECT TROUBLE DURING THE MOVE.

FOR THAT REASON, I HAVE TOLD ONLY THE BARE MINIMUM NUMBER OF POLICE FORCES NECESSARY FOR COORDINATION WHICH ROUTE WE WILL BE TAKING, SO THAT THEY, AND WE, CAN SECURE THAT ROUTE.

ONCE WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THIS, THE REST OF OUR TASK WILL BE CONSIDERABLY SIMPLER, AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT. YOU'LL FIND YOUR INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTIONS IN THE OTHER ROOM, ALONG WITH WHICH PARTS OF THE ROUTE YOU'LL BE PROTECTING. THAT'S ALL.



BUCKETS. BUT WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT? WHAT IS, IS. WE GOTTA FIGHT WHO WE GOTTA FIGHT. THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID.

IT'S NOT ME, PETER, IT'S--

YOU'RE BEING QUIET.

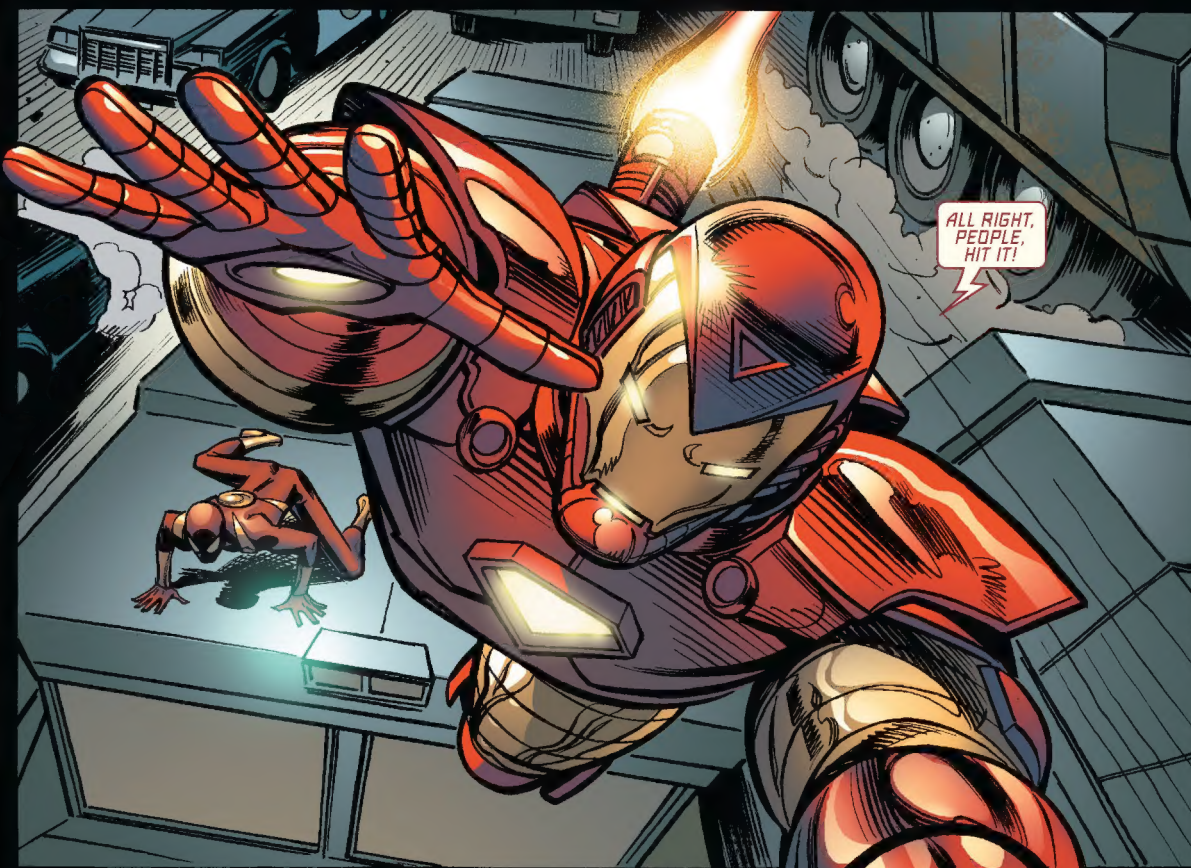
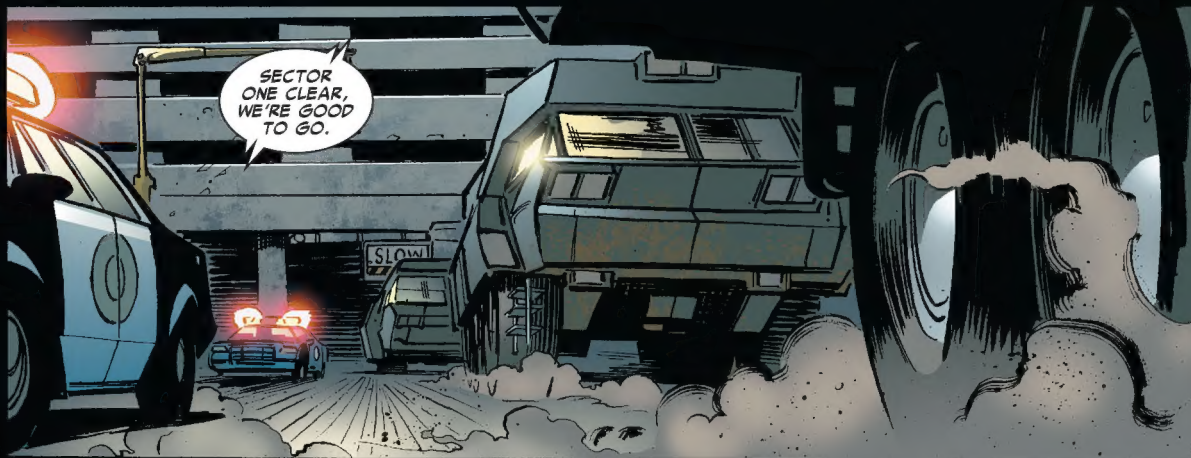
I'M NOT FEELING VERY COURT-JESTERISH TODAY.

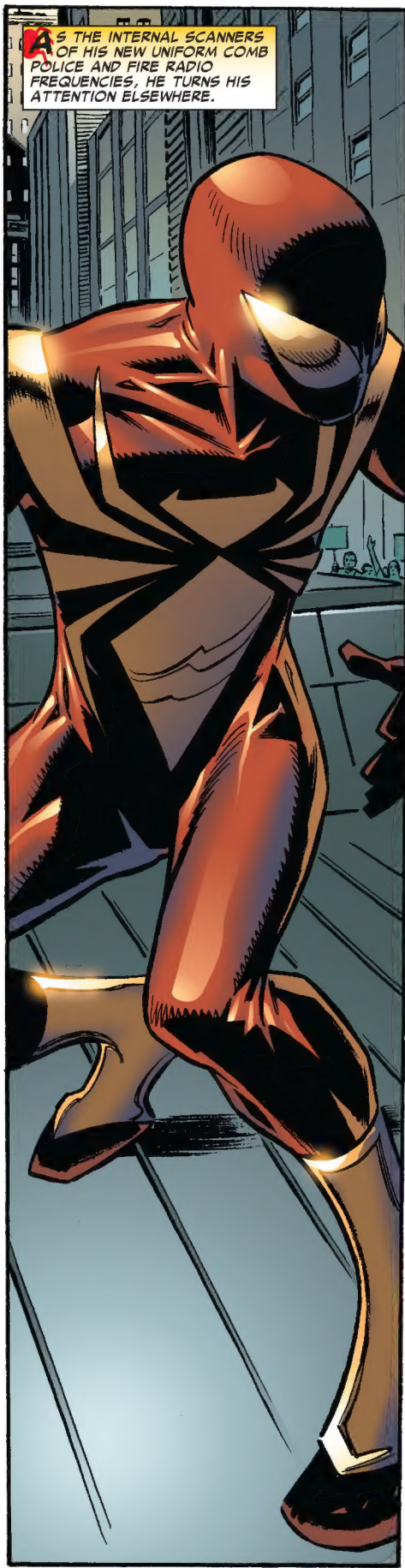
ANYTHING YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?

YEAH, I KNOW...WE'RE ALL JUST FOLLOWING ORDERS. DOESN'T MEAN I HAVE TO LIKE IT.

SO LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED.







AS THE INTERNAL SCANNERS OF HIS NEW UNIFORM COMB POLICE AND FIRE RADIO FREQUENCIES, HE TURNS HIS ATTENTION ELSEWHERE.



THE CROWD--WELL, AT LEAST HALF OF THEM--APPLAUD THE PASSING CONVOY.

NO NEED TO HIDE

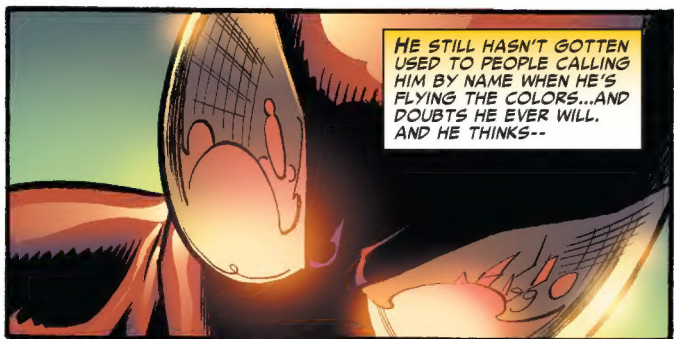
YEAH! GOOD GOING, BOYS!



THE OTHER HALF...NOT SO MUCH.

PETER! YOU SUCK!

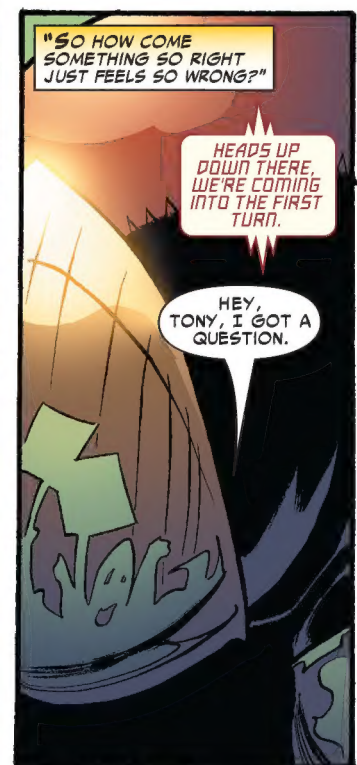
REGISTRATION IS TYRANNY



HE STILL HASN'T GOTTEN USED TO PEOPLE CALLING HIM BY NAME WHEN HE'S FLYING THE COLORS...AND DOUBTS HE EVER WILL. AND HE THINKS--



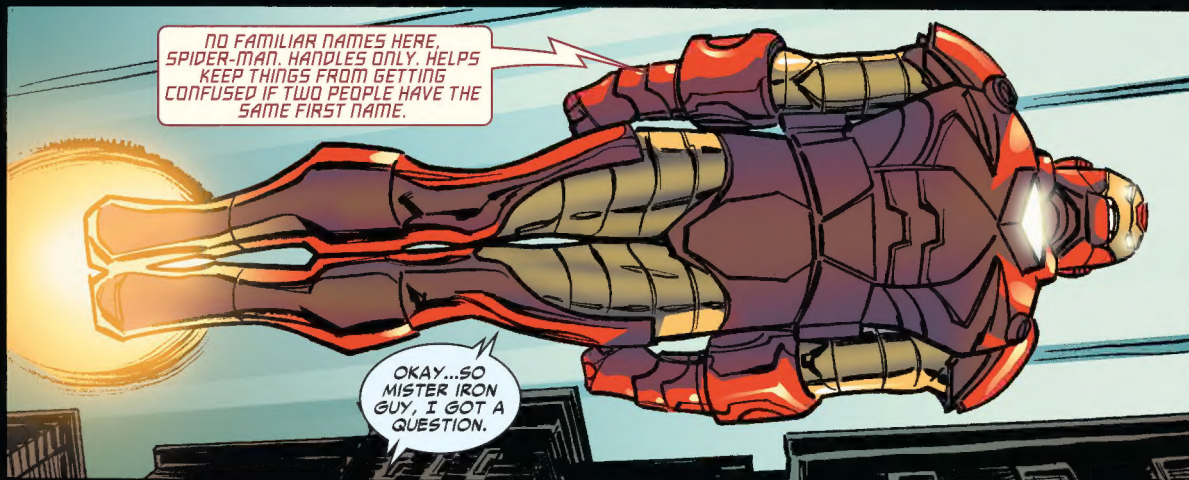
"FOR THE FIRST TIME, I'M ACCEPTED. I'M OUT. I'M ON THE SIDE OF THE LAW, AND THE LAW'S ON MY SIDE. MAY IS PROUD OF ME. MJ IS PROUD OF ME. I'M ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF EVERYTHING."



"SO HOW COME SOMETHING SO RIGHT JUST FEELS SO WRONG?"

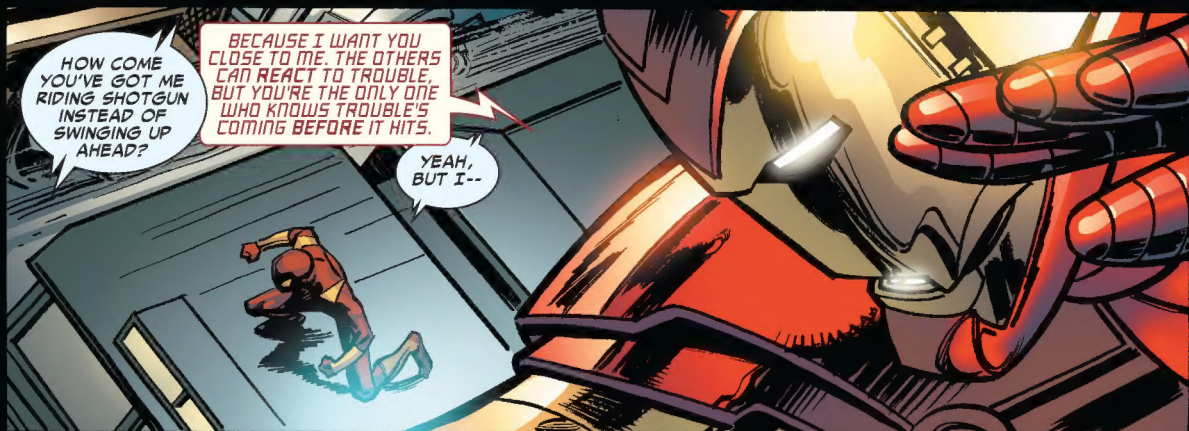
HEADS UP DOWN THERE, WE'RE COMING INTO THE FIRST TURN.

HEY, TONY, I GOT A QUESTION.



NO FAMILIAR NAMES HERE, SPIDER-MAN. HANDLES ONLY. HELPS KEEP THINGS FROM GETTING CONFUSED IF TWO PEOPLE HAVE THE SAME FIRST NAME.

OKAY...SO MISTER IRON GUY, I GOT A QUESTION.



HOW COME YOU'VE GOT ME RIDING SHOTGUN INSTEAD OF SWINGING UP AHEAD?

BECAUSE I WANT YOU CLOSE TO ME. THE OTHERS CAN REACT TO TROUBLE, BUT YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS TROUBLE'S COMING BEFORE IT HITS.

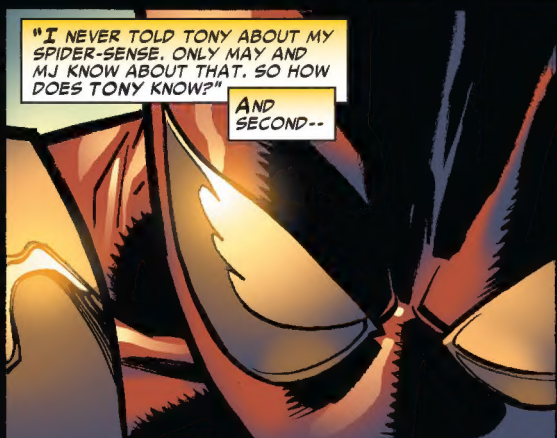
YEAH, BUT I--



COME AGAIN?

NOTHING. JUST WONDERING.

AND HE GOES VERY QUIET, AS HE THINKS TWO THOUGHTS. FIRST--



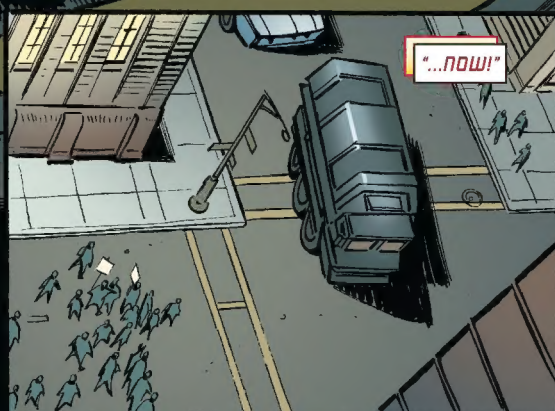
"I NEVER TOLD TONY ABOUT MY SPIDER-SENSE. ONLY MAY AND MJ KNOW ABOUT THAT. SO HOW DOES TONY KNOW?"

AND SECOND--

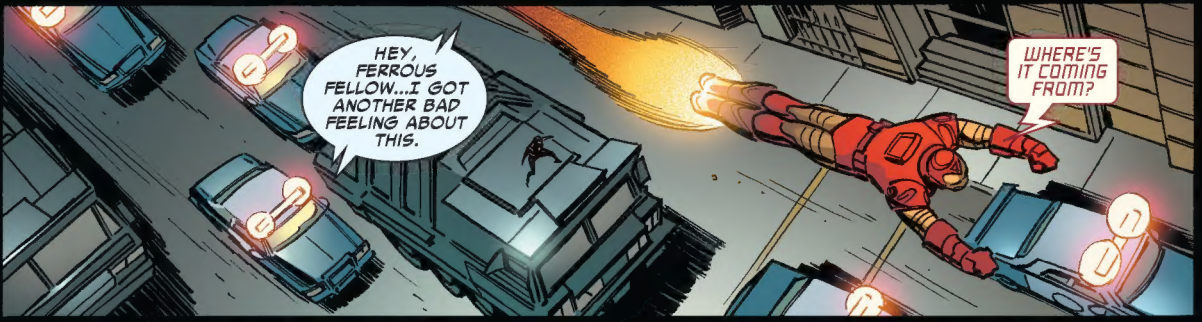


"I THINK I NEED TO GO OVER THIS SUIT A LITTLE MORE CLOSELY...FIND OUT HOW MUCH DATA IS COMING IN..."

"...AND MORE IMPORTANT, HOW MUCH DATA I DON'T KNOW ABOUT IS GOING OUT."





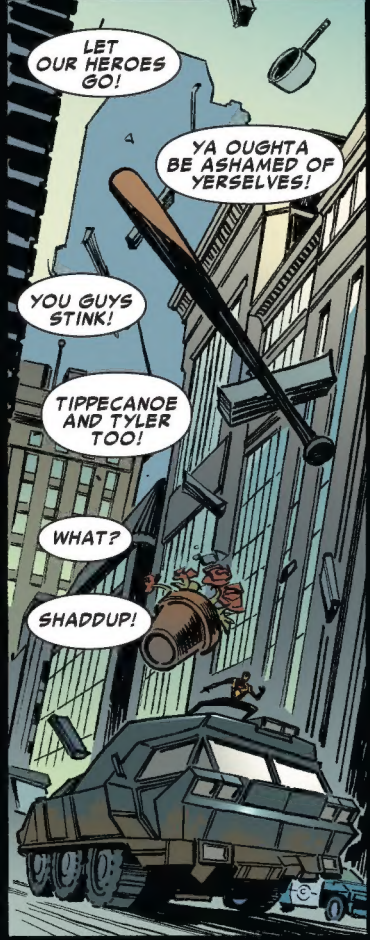


HEY, FERROUS FELLOW...I GOT ANOTHER BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

WHERE'S IT COMING FROM?



UMM...
...EVERYWHERE.



LET OUR HEROES GO!

YA OUGHTA BE ASHAMED OF YERSELVES!

YOU GUYS STINK!

TIPPECANOE AND TYLER TOO!

WHAT?

SHADDUP!



TEAMS ALPHA AND BETA, DEPLOY IN DEFENSIVE MODE... BUT USE RESTRAINT, WE'RE DEALING WITH CIVILIANS. YOU COPY, WASP?

AFFIRMATIVE, GOLDEN BOY.

GREAT, SEE WHAT YOU'VE STARTED, SPIDER-MAN? SPIDER-MAN? DO YOU COPY?



I REPEAT, ARE YOU RECEIVING ME?

HE HESITATES AS THE SMALL DANGERS HE SENSES SURROUNDING THEM BLUR INTO A KIND OF WHITE NOISE. OVER THE YEARS, HE HAS GROWN WARY OF THE SMALL DANGERS.

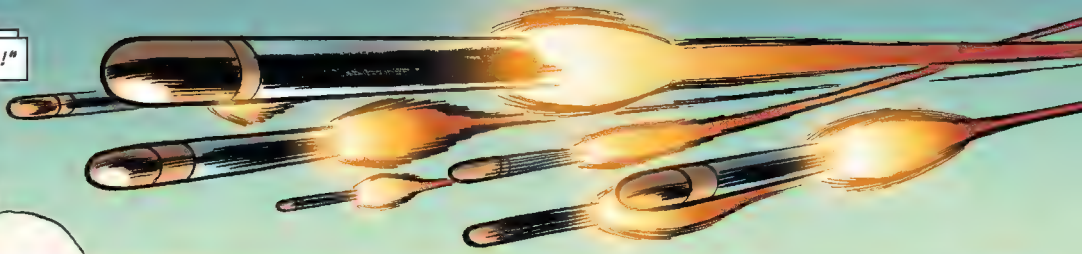


BECAUSE SOMETIMES THE SMALL DANGERS CAN MASK THE BIG DANGER UNTIL IT'S ALMOST--

--MISSILES--

WHAT?

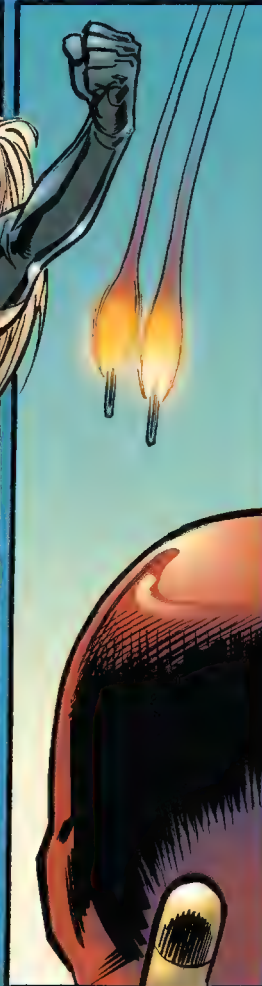
"INCOMING!"



CAN'T
GET ALL OF
THEM--



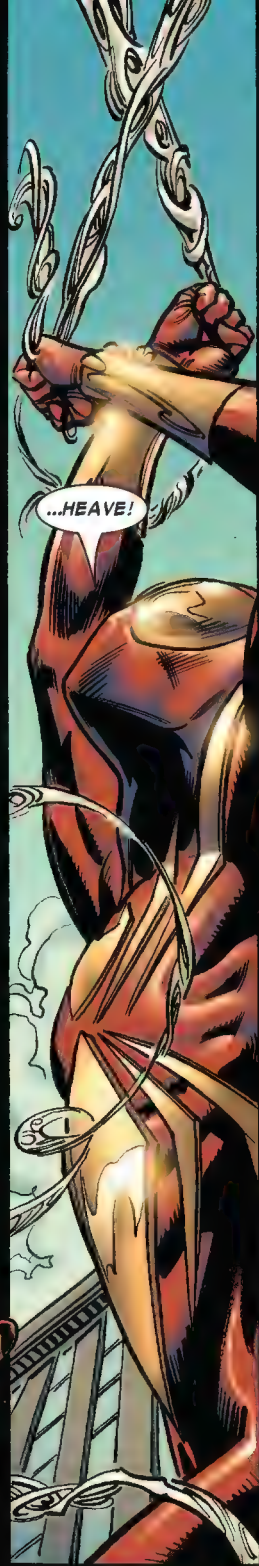
NO! TWO
STILL GETTING
THROUGH!



I'VE
GOT 'EM!
I'VE GOT 'EM!
I'VE--



WHOOAAAHHH!





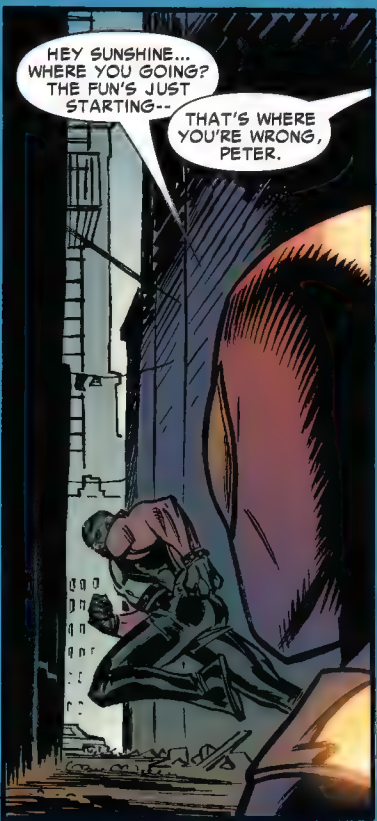
EDITOR'S NOTE: WHAT'S BEN GRIMM DOING IN THIS SCENE? FOR HIS PART OF THIS VERY SAME STORY TOLD FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW, SEE FANTASTIC FOUR #539...BECAUSE IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!

BECAUSE YES, WE DO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.

AND REALLY, YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF.



-CRRRK-
ESCAPE ATTEMPT
-CRRZZZZK TRYING
TO JAM FREQ--
ZZZZRRRRKKK--
APPREHEND ANYONE
ESCAPING. REPEAT
APP-SSRRKKK-



HEY SUNSHINE...
WHERE YOU GOING?
THE FUN'S JUST
STARTING--

THAT'S WHERE
YOU'RE WRONG,
PETER.



KILLING
THE
SCRAP



THERE IS
NO FUN HERE.
THERE'S ONLY
INNOCENT PEOPLE
BEING HURT, AND
ARRESTED, AND
KILLED.

AND YOU'RE
ON THE WRONG
SIDE OF THAT
EQUATION.

FUNNY, I
WAS ABOUT TO
SAY THE SAME
THING TO YOU,
FOLLOWED SHORTLY
AFTERWARD
BY--

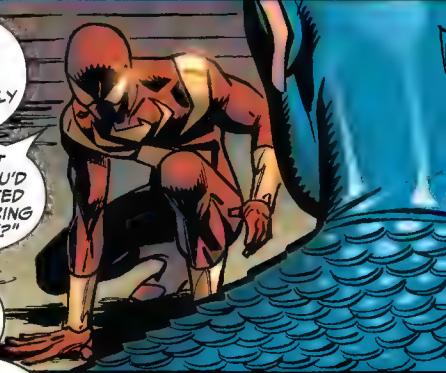
--"I DON'T
SUPPOSE YOU'D
BE INTERESTED
IN SURRENDERING
PEACEFULLY?"

I'M GOING
TO MAKE THIS
SHORT, AND TO
THE POINT.

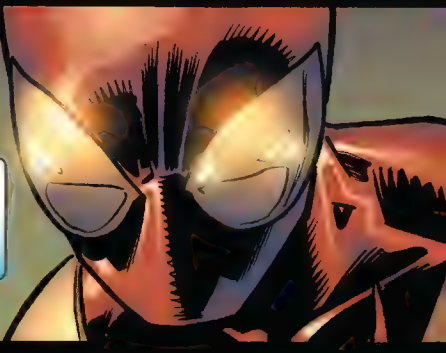
I RESPECT
YOU, PETER, AND
I KNOW YOU. I KNOW
YOUR HEART. I KNOW
YOU HATE WHAT
YOU'RE DOING, BUT
YOU THINK YOU DON'T
HAVE ANY OTHER
CHOICE.

YOU'RE
WRONG. YOU CAN
STILL DO THE RIGHT
THING. WE COULD
USE YOU ON OUR
SIDE.

I
WON'T ASK
AGAIN.



My whole life, all
I've ever really
wanted is the
respect of the
people I admire.
Aunt May. M.J.



And people
like him.

Finally, at last,
after so long...
I've got it.



And now I'm
about to lose
it forever.



Forever....



I've seen him fight dozens of times, tried to study his moves--



UNNNHHH!!

--but until this moment, I never realized--



--there ARE no moves. It's all just ONE move, from start to finish.

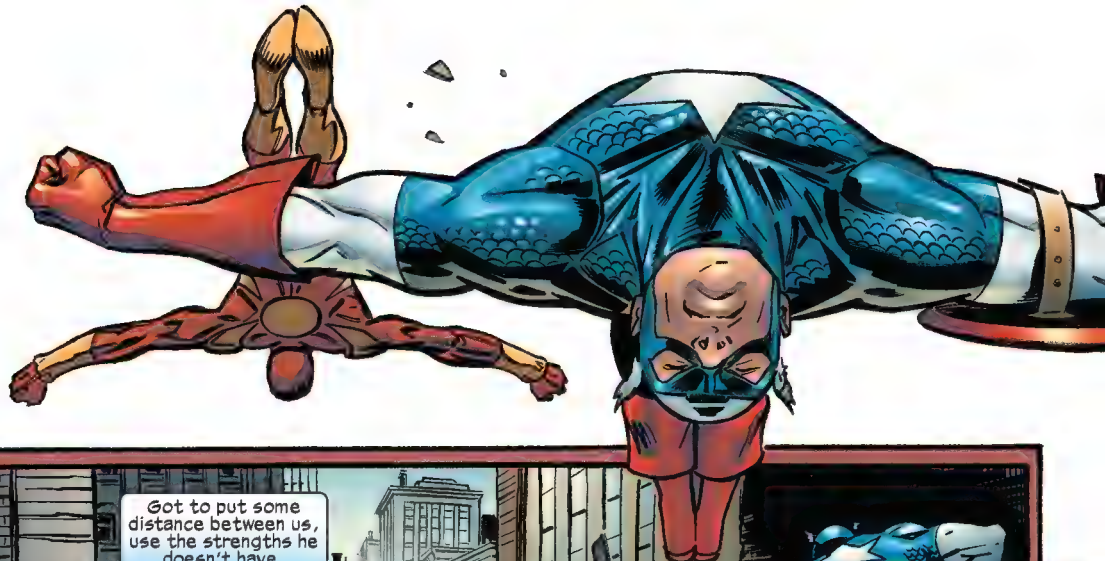


Smooth, quick, a ballet, deadly and fast.



And powerful.

URRRK!

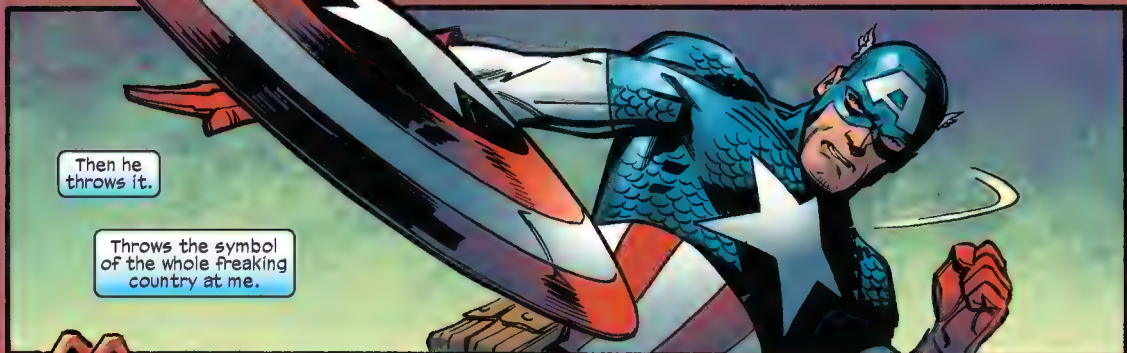


Got to put some distance between us, use the strengths he doesn't have, the webs, the--

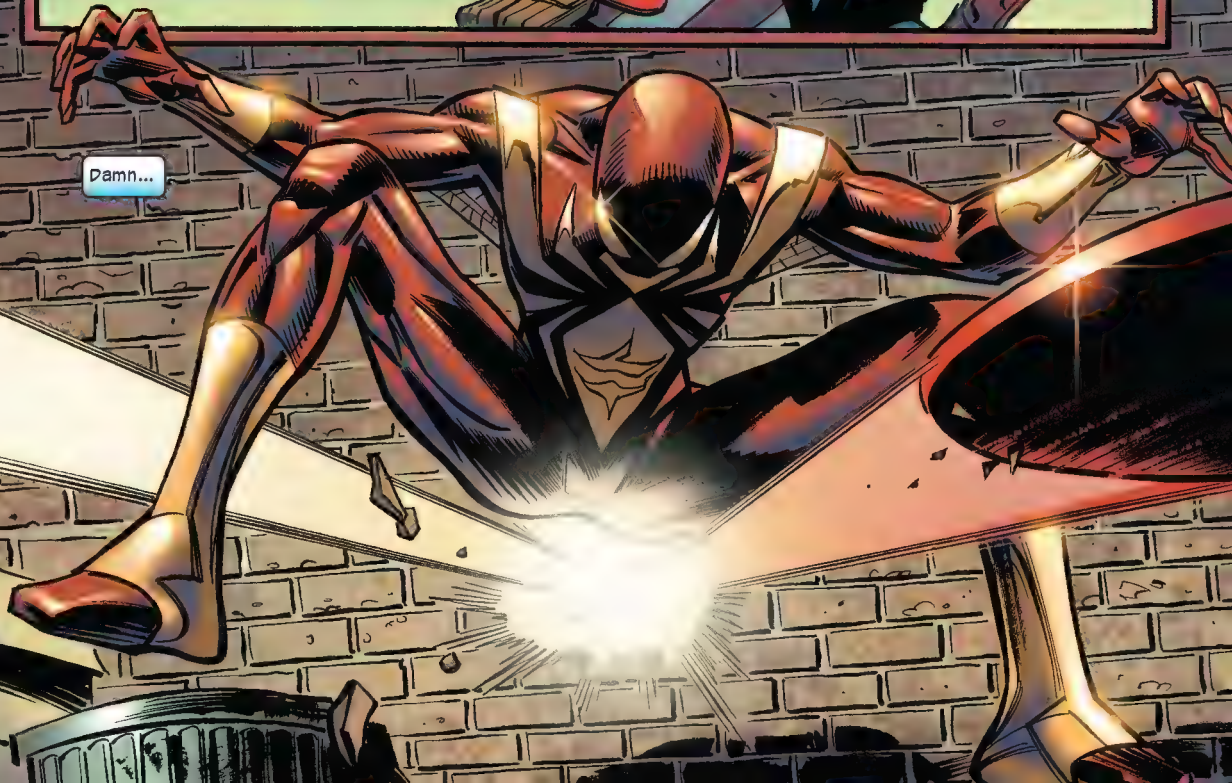


Then he throws it.

Throws the symbol of the whole freaking country at me.



Damn...

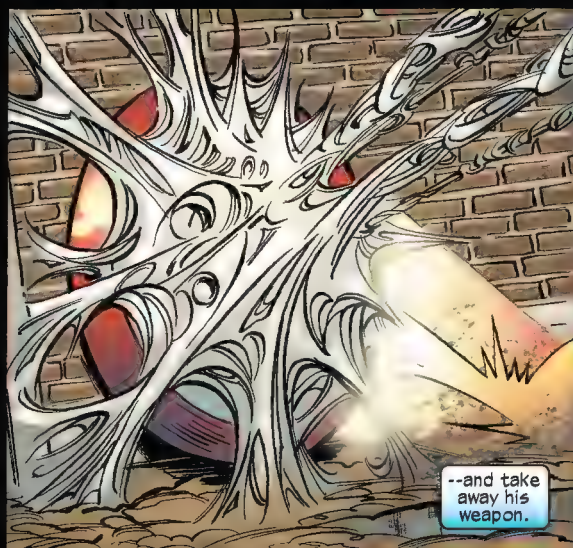




The shield is perfect geometry in flight...but I have one advantage... I can *SENSE* where it's going to end up.



I use it--



--and take away his weapon.



And as I turn, still in midair, I realize I've exposed my back--



--and did exactly what he wanted me to do.

AGGGGH!



Everything's numb below the waist.

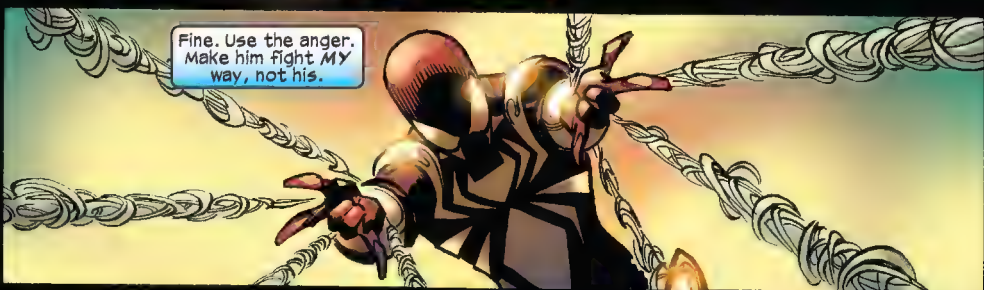
He's hit me three times.

I didn't get him once.

Elapsed time--

--ten seconds.

The man knows more about hand-to-hand fighting than I'll ever learn in a hundred years. Makes me feel like a chump.



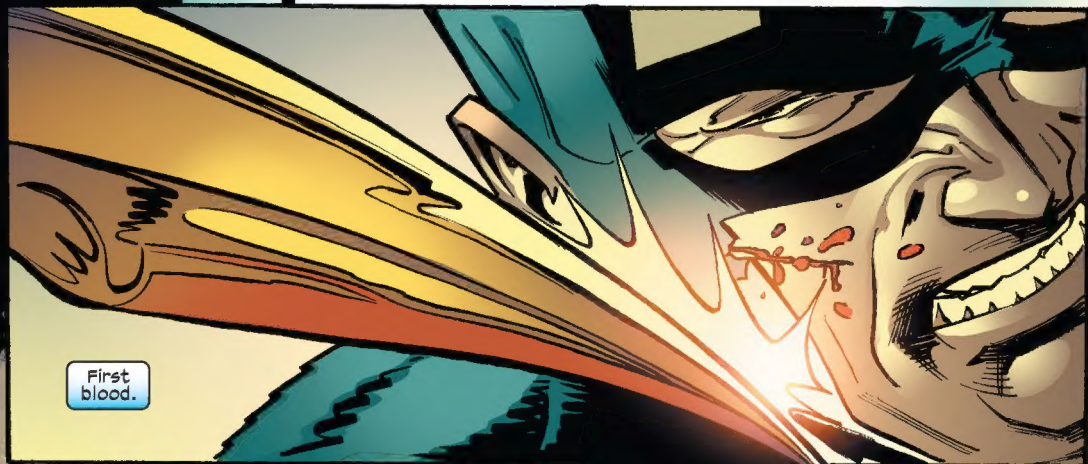
Fine. Use the anger. Make him fight MY way, not his.



He's studied me, that's why he wants to fight close. He knows my every move, my every skill and power.



But he hasn't had time to study these.



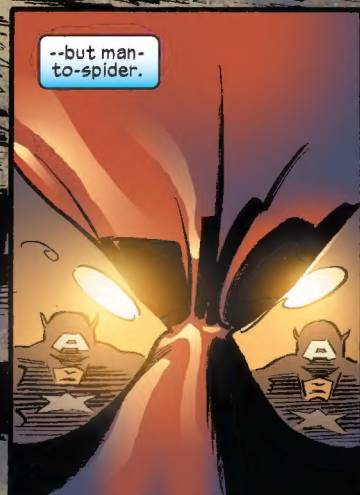
First blood.



He's surprised... and ticked.



That's how I can beat him. Not fighting him man-to-man--



--but man-to-spider.



HAVE
TO GET TO
THEM!



WHAT
THE--

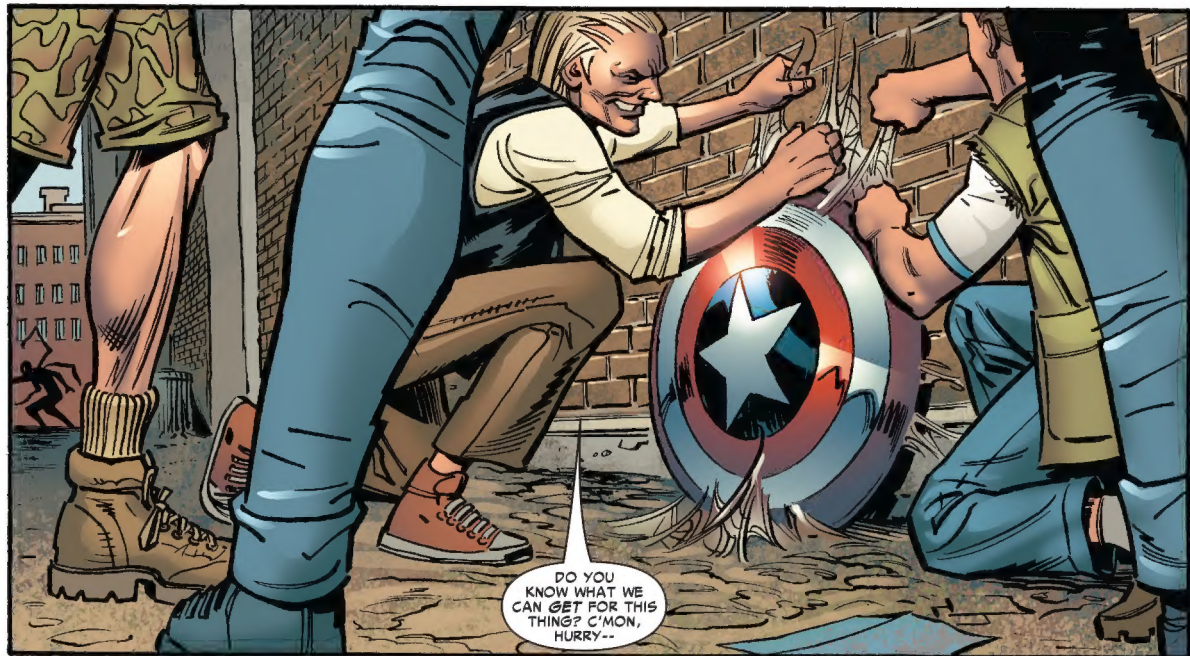
NO...THE
OTHERS...THEY'RE
UNDER ATTACK.



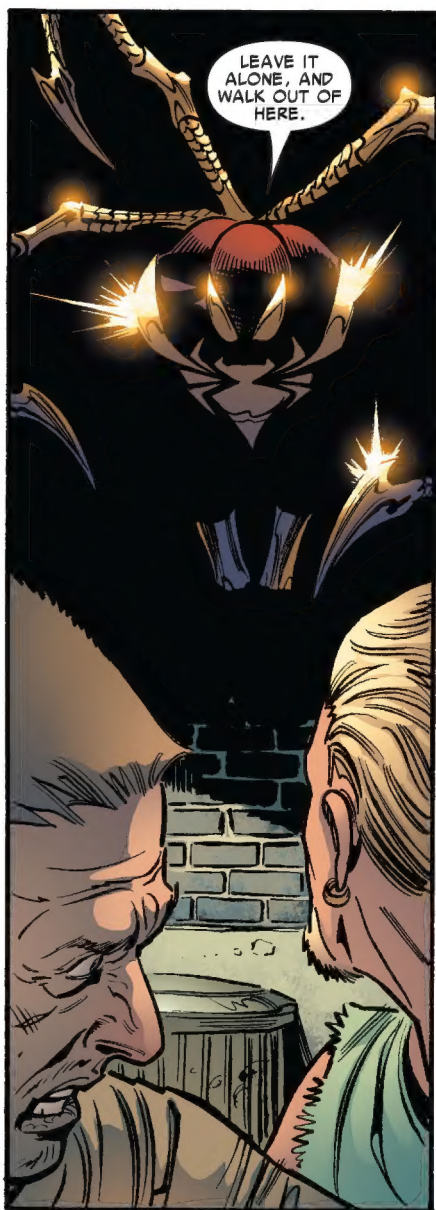
Got
to hurry,
got to--



GET IT...
QUICK, MAN,
GET IT--



DO YOU
KNOW WHAT WE
CAN GET FOR THIS
THING? C'MON,
HURRY--



LEAVE IT
ALONE, AND
WALK OUT OF
HERE.

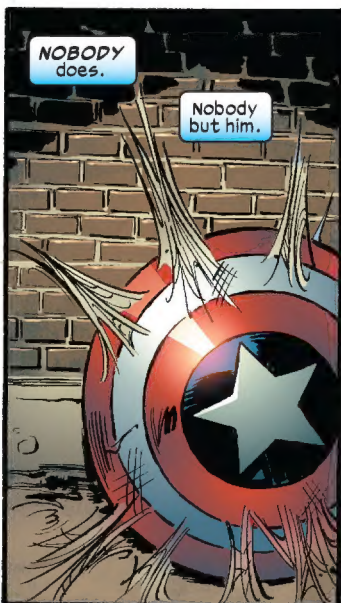


RIGHT.
NOW.



They make
tracks, fast.
Good.

They've got no
business
even **TOUCHING**
that thing.




NOBODY
does.

Nobody
but him.




The sound of fighting
has stopped. Sounds
like Tony's got things
in hand at his end.

But I'll bet
good money
Cap isn't one
of them.




I put it in a place where nobody can reach it.

Correction: **ALMOST** nobody.




Because I **WANT** him to know I left it for him.

When he finds it, I hope he understands. I hope he gets the message--



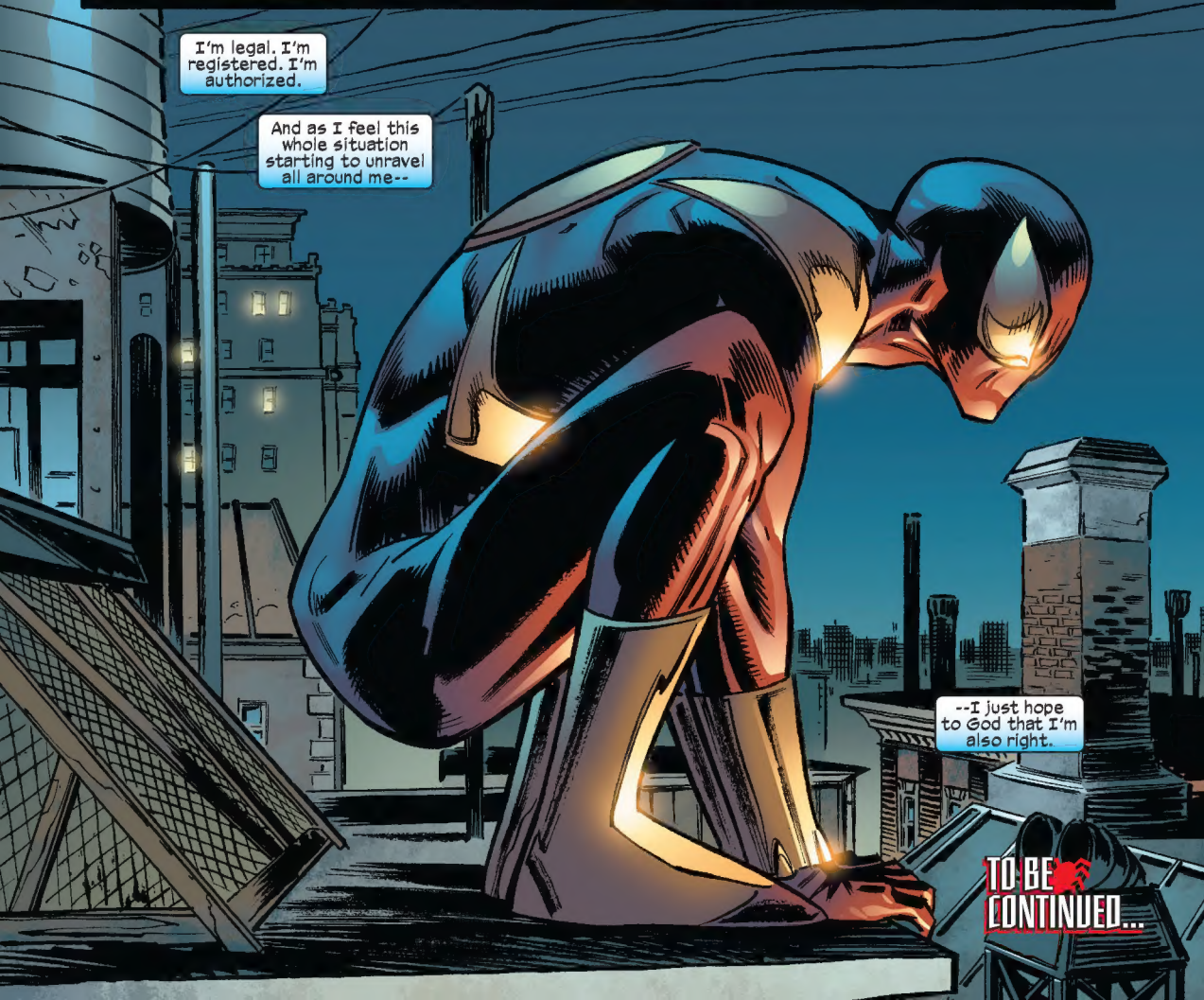
--that the shield represents the country, and the laws of the country decide who's right. Even the laws we don't like.

Even the ones that suck.



Cap thinks in terms of right and wrong, but this isn't a matter of right or wrong, moral or immoral. It's legal vs. illegal.

At least, that's what I tell myself in the middle of the night, when I wonder what the hell I'm doing here.



I'm legal. I'm registered. I'm authorized.

And as I feel this whole situation starting to unravel all around me--

--I just hope to God that I'm also right.

**TO BE
CONTINUED...**